

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN DANIEL FUCHS**, on March 11, 2003 at 8:02 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Daniel Fuchs, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Ronald Devlin, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Ron Erickson, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Joan Andersen (R)  
Rep. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Rep. Gary Branae (D)  
Rep. Eileen J. Carney (D)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Rep. Larry Cyr (D)  
Rep. Gary Forrester (D)  
Rep. Kim Gillan (D)  
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)  
Rep. Bob Lake (R)  
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)  
Rep. Jesse Laslovich (D)  
Rep. Jim Peterson (R)  
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)  
Rep. Karl Waitschies (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Kathleen Ely, Committee Secretary  
Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch

**Video-taped Committee:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society. THE TIME STAMP REPRESENTS ELAPSED TIME.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 714, 2/20/2003; SB 65, 3/6/2003

Executive Action: HB 413, TABLED

**HEARING ON SB 65**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

0:00 **SEN. ROUSH, SD 43 -- Short Title:** Revise veteran's property tax and vehicle fee benefits.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

17:00 Hal Manson, American Legion of Montana  
18:00 Allen Armstrong, Vietnam Veterans of America  
20:00 Mike Hankins, Chaplain, Lewis and Clark Honor Guard  
22:00 W. Lee Smith, Gulf War veteran  
22:00 Mike Hampson, President, Montana Vietnam Veterans of America  
23:00 Keith Blankenship  
24:00 Jim Jacobson

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

26:00 Randy Wilke, Department of Revenue

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

30:00

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a01)

**Closing by Sponsor:**

32:00

**HEARING ON HB 714**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

36:00 **REP. BALYEAT, HD 32 -- Short Title:** Optional simplified income tax filing.

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a02)

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a03)

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a04)

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a05)

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a06)

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a07)

**Proponents' Testimony:** None.

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

1:00:00

Closing by Sponsor:

1:29:00

9:37 a.m. Break

10:02 a.m. Resume

REPS. BALYEAT and LAMBERT excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 413

Motion: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 413 DO PASS.

Discussion:

2:02:00

Motion: REP. LAKE moved that HB 413 BE AMENDED.

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a08)

2:10:00 REP. LAKE withdrew his Motion.

Motion: REP. LAKE moved that HB 413 BE AMENDED.

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a09)

**EXHIBIT**(tah51a10)

Motion/Vote: REP. COHENOUR moved that THE AMENDMENTS REGARDING PRICE BE SEGREGATED FROM THE AMENDMENT TO HB 413 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Vote: Motion that HB 413 BE AMENDED carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 413 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Discussion:

2:31:00

Motion/Vote: REP. LAKE moved that HB 413 BE AMENDED CONCEPTUALLY TO CHANGE THE \$.54 TAX TO \$.70 AND THE \$.33 TAX TO \$.35 AND THAT THE PERCENTAGES BE ADJUSTED THROUGHOUT TO 20 PERCENT. Motion carried 10-8 with REPS. ANDERSON, BALYEAT, DEVLIN, JACKSON, LAMBERT, PETERSON, ROSS, and WAITSCHIES voting no by roll call vote with REPS. BALYEAT and LAMBERT voting by proxy.

Motion: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 413 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

**Motion/Vote:** REP. LAKE moved that HB 413 BE AMENDED. Motion carried 13-5 with REPS. BRANAE, CARNEY, COHENOUR, CYR, and ERICKSON voting no by roll call vote with REPS. BALYEAT and LAMBERT voting by proxy.

**Discussion:**

2:46:00

**Motion:** REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 413 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

**Vote:** Motion failed 8-10 with REPS. BRANAE, CARNEY, COHENOUR, CYR, ERICKSON, FORRESTER, GILLAN, and LASLOVICH voting aye by roll call vote with REPS. BALYEAT and LAMBERT voting by voice proxy of the Vice-Chair. CHAIRMAN FUCHS REVERSED THE VOTE AND TABLED THE BILL without objection.

**Discussion:**

3:00:00

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:09 A.M.

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REP. DANIEL FUCHS, Chairman

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KATHLEEN ELY, Secretary

DF/KE

**EXHIBIT** (tah51aad)